

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 03588 301022Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00
EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15
SP-02 CEQ-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 HA-05 OMB-01 AID-05
PM-05 H-01 PA-01 ARA-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
ICAE-00 DOEE-00 ISO-00 /134 W
-----105845 301026Z /10 ,

O R 300950Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2883
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRAZILIA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 3588

USIAEA

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: ENRG MNUC PARM TECH BR GW NL UK
SUBJECT: PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON URENCO ENDS IN VICTORY

REF: THE HAGUE 3546

1. THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON URENCO FINALLY CONCLUDED
AT 0600 FRIDAY MORNING JUNE 30 WITH A VICTORY FOR THE
GOVERNMENT. ALL MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY OPPOSITION PARTIES
CRITICIZING THE GOVERNMENT OR CALLING FOR FURTHER
ATTEMPTS TO RENOGOTIATE THE CONTRACT WITH BRAZIL WERE
DEFEATED. NO ROLL CALL VOTES WERE TAKEN BUT THE
COALITION PARTIES FULLY SUPPORTED THE CABINET AND THE
GOVERNMENT WAS NOT REALLY THREATENED.
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2. ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ISSUE, PM VAN AGT WENT
NO FURTHER THAN TO SAY THE GOVERNMENT AGREED THAT AT
THE TIME OF DELIVERIES THERE MUST BE ADEQUATE ASSURANCES
OF A SATISFACTORY STORAGE REGION FOR SPENT FUEL. ON
THE PROCEDURAL QUESTION OF THE ROLES OF PARLIAMENT AND
GOVERNMENT, ALMOST ALL SPEAKERS REGRETTE THE LACK OF

MEANINGFUL CONSULTATION WITH THE SECOND CHAMBER AND
URGED THE GOVERNEMENT TO COME TO THE CHAMBER WITH TIMELY
NOTIFICATION OF ITS INTENT TO ISSUE EXPORT LICENSES
PRIOR TO ANY DELIVERIES TO BRAZIL OF ENRICHED URANIUM.

3. COMMENT: WE WILL DISCUSS THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS
DEBATE IN A SUBSEQUENT MESSAGE BUT THE INITIAL REACTION
IS THAT VAN AGT HAS EMERGED A CLEAR WINNER: HE HAS
STUCK TO HIS POSITION THAT NO PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED
BY FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH URENCO PARTNERS AND HE HAS
AVOIDED REPEATING HIS MISTAKE OF LAST WINTER WHEN HE
COMMITTED HIS GOVERNMENT TO GIVING PARLIAMENT THE FINAL
WORD ON THIS SUBJECT. THE DEBATE WAS SHARP AT TIMES
BUT IT WAS APPARENT THAT THE MP'S RECOGNIZED THAT
FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WERE NOT A REALISTIC POSSIBILITY.
THERE ALSO APPEARED TO BE A GREATER AWARENESS IN THE
CHAMBER OF THE COMPLEXITIES OF THIS ISSUE AND AN
APPRECIATION THAT THE MUCH-VAUNTED DUTCH VETO (BY
REMAINING IN URENCO) DID NOT REALLY AMOUNT TO MUCH.
BROWN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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